

I wanted to write to you today to protest a little media censorship. I do not have Sinclair Broadcasting stations in my area, but I am still protesting the actions they've taken using my - and every American's - public airwaves.

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary - and only that side of things - days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

At the very least, Sinclair should be required to broadcast an alternate show, such as PBS Frontline's interview with Kerry's troops, or even Michael Moore's Fahrenheit 9-11. After all, not just \*conservative\* voters pay for the \_public\_ airwaves. So do those of us who are centrist, moderate and liberal.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter. Every day I see fewer "independent" radio stations and TV stations and more "conglomerate" stations, and that's why I find myself listening to more public radio and watching more cable and less of the "public waves" and the big 3 - because I don't have to watch the same interchangeable talking heads telling us the same news stories with interchangeable words - I get more truth and real info from NPR, PBS, and independent radio, and I'm not the only one. IF you at the FCC are REALLY interested in serving our country and your mandate, maybe you'll listen and make it so that there are a lot more independent voices - otherwise, that drift they talk of of listeners and watchers to other media will just keep going to independent voices, cable and to the satellite stations.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.